GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4079
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2000
REDUCING OF NON-DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE
RAMJI LAL SUMAN;ZORA SINGH MANN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to achieve the target of reducing atleast ten percent of non-development expenditure during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the estimate of the amount which is likely to be reduced ;

(c) whether the non-developmental areas have been identified in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) to (d) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4079 BY SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN AND SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 14.12.2000 REGARDING REDUCING OF NON-DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE.

(a) to (d) As per Ministry of Finance's directives, all ministries are required to reduce their non-salary/non-plan expenditure during the current year by 10%. Ministry of Railways have also taken steps to implement these directives on the Railways. It may, however, be mentioned that a large part of the non-salary/non-plan expenditure of the Railways pertains to fuel costs, repairs & maintenance costs and lease charges, which are invariable in nature and very vital to the operation and safety of the Railways. As regards fuel, there has been an increase in the price of diesel as well of electricity tariff in some states. Hence it may not be possible to achieve the targeted reduction of 10% in these areas. The Zonal Railways have, however, been asked to effect savings to the extent of Rs.865 cr under Ordinary Working Expenses in 2000-01. The broad areas of Ordinary Working Expenses and the amount to be spent on them as per Budget Estimate 2000-01, are given below :

(Rs. in Cr)

		B.E.2000-01
(i)	Staff	12871
(ii)	Materials	2569
(iii)	Fuel	6377
(iv)	Lease Charges	3014
(v)	Other Expenses incl. Contractual Payments, Contingent Expenses, Security, Compensation Claims etc.	3284
Total		28115

The item wise savings achieved will be known only by the end of the year after finalisation of accounts for the current year.